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MAY 26 2006

PATENT

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP NO. 1631

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re Application of: Cowsert, Baker, McNeil, Freier, Sasmor, Brooks, Ohashi, Wyatt,
Borchers, and Vickers**

Serial No.: 09/067,638

Group Art Unit: 1631

Filed: April 28, 1998

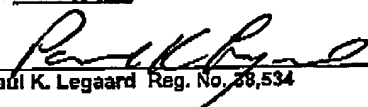
Examiner: Marjorie A. Moran

Title: System Of Components For Preparing Oligonucleotides

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On 26 May 2006


Paul K. Legaard Reg. No. 38,534

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2006 and the interview conducted on April 26, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows. The period for responding to the Office Action has been extended, by enclosure of a petition and appropriate fee, to and through May 26, 2006.